

A Page of Interest to All

Don'ts for the Tall Woman

WHAT THE TALL, TALL LADY SHOULD AVOID IN POSE AND DRESS

PHOTO BY
OTTO SARONY
CO.



Much charm lies in the divinely tall woman, whether she is most divinely fair or only passably good looking. If—and here is the secret of this goddess' attractions—she carries herself as a tall woman should.

No one can appreciate the length and importance of the list of "don'ts" for the tall woman quite so well as one who is in this class; the trouble is, however, that not all tall women have the strength of mind and poise to make the most of the "don'ts" laid down for them. It's so much easier to be "slumpy" and to look awkward than to study gracefulness in pose and carriage, but those who observe and those who know what they are talking about agree that it is altogether worth while to give the "don'ts" proper consideration.

Petite feminine creatures may offend the artistic idea of proportion and the poetic sense of rhythm, but such offenses are insignificant when compared with the effect produced when a tall woman commits the same sins. It puts her at once in the category of the impossible.

Not only is the array of "don'ts" for the tall woman ever formidable and discouraging to attempt to follow, but it includes such varied admonitions, ranging as it does from fashions in frocks to the size of the man she should marry, that only the pluckiest of her sex will have the courage to follow them all. It's quite worth trying, however, as one of the divinely tall class assures us.

Many of Them Stoop.

"Nine out of every ten tall women have a natural inclination to stoop, evidently in order to appear less tall," said Miss Dorothy Tennant, who comes only a trifle short of the six foot mark and looks every inch of her height. "The mere knowledge that you are above the average height makes you feel awkward, which proves that the very first thing for a tall woman to learn is to forget about herself and help to keep from impressing her height upon others. People are in every sense you make, every pose you assume, a consciousness of your height, and if you think so much about it, why shouldn't they think too? When this mental condition is changed then it is time to start in improving physical ones."

"Do you think, for instance, that many tall women pay any attention to what sort of chairs they sit in—whether they are large or small ones? They don't unless they have made a study of such things."

In order to appreciate the important part furniture and surroundings play in the tall woman's appearance take the first opportunity you have to contrast the effect produced by a tall woman occupying a tiny seat with that of one of her size seated in a high backed chair. The difference is effect is nothing less than remarkable. In the first instance her shoulders probably droop instinctively, to be in proportion with their surroundings, her knees assume an awkward angle, accentuating the length of her line from hip to knee, while almost invariably you will see her cross her feet or sit with them in some ungraceful position. The impression she gives is that the chair is too small and it doesn't have the ghost of a chance to play the part for which it was originally intended—that of a fitting background for the picture—whereas a high backed chair results in graceful poses, while it becomes part of the individual for the time being.

"The same rule holds good in regard to low tables. A tall woman looks extremely awkward and uncomfortable when bending over an unusually low table. She should make it a point to keep away from any furniture that is built on a diminutive scale. I might add in this same line, don't stand under chandeliers or linger in doorways."

They call attention to your height. "So much has been said about the way to carry one's self that anything further on the subject seems unnecessary, but if the tall woman would only bear in mind that to stoop when standing or walking with a shorter person doesn't take a fraction of an inch from her height, but, on the contrary, emphasizes her inches and makes her look awkward, she will be more careful about this 'don't' and instead of seeming to be ashamed of her height be glad to look her best, perhaps to her companion's disadvantage."

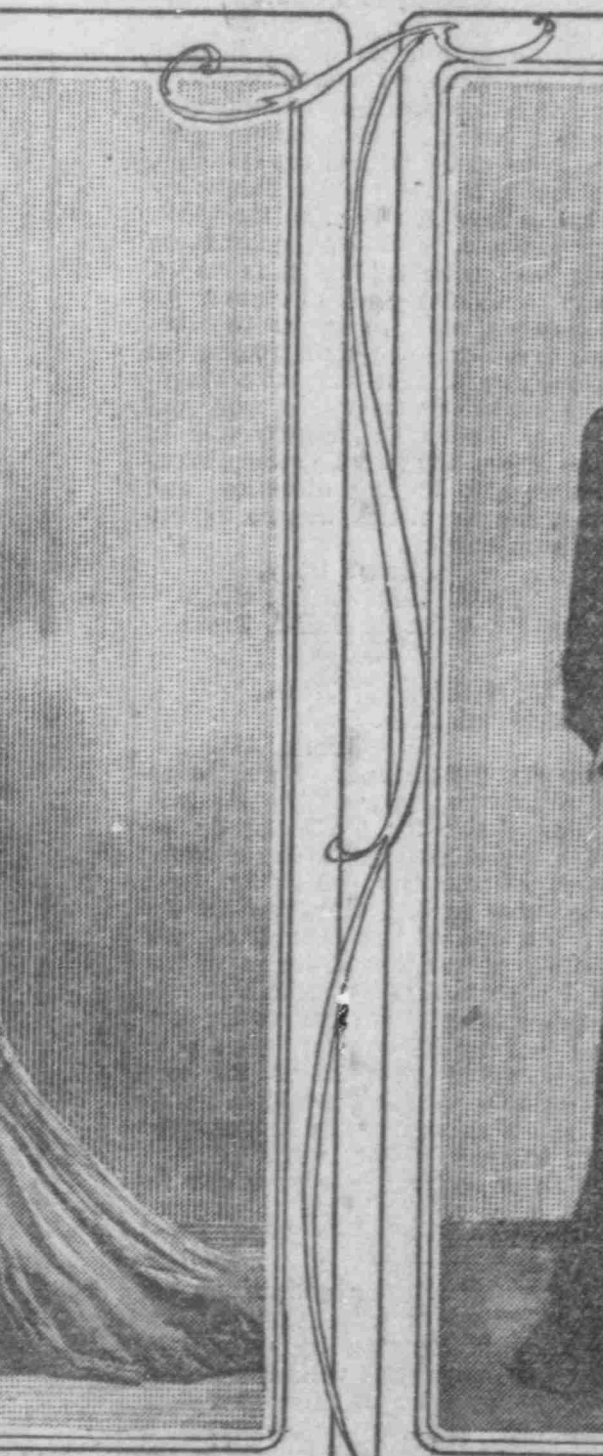
"Of course, it's easy to say that a tall woman shouldn't dance with or marry a man who is shorter than she. Flatteringly this is one of the most important of the 'don'ts,' but observation shows that this particular 'don't' is not often observed. If, however, a woman does accept a short man for a companion or a partner for life, then she should always bear in mind a 'don't' previously dwelt on—not to appear conscious of her height."

"It has been my experience that more short than tall men have enrolled themselves on my list of friends, and I believe that this is true with all tall women. Perhaps it is the contrast that forms the basis of such a friendship. I never knew a short man who didn't prefer tall women to those of his own size for friends; in fact, most of them who are below the average height won't even look at a little woman."

More can be accomplished by dressing suitably than by any other means to produce an appearance of graceful proportion," continued Miss Tennant. "A tall woman can take several inches from her height if she understands how to do it. I think that I have found the best solution of this puzzling problem for the tall woman in my selection of gowns worn in Hanson's Poly. In one set I make my appearance in traveling costume, and after careful study I finally chose a full coat with extra broad shoulders. In an ordinary long coat I would probably resemble a pea pole, but the fulness of this garment cuts on my height, and I've had the shoulder seams run down midway to the elbows, and full sleeves set in here which are gathered into narrow cuffs. For a tall woman this garment is a veritable triumph; every line suggests breadth, and the flat, wide hat I wear adds no small share to the general broadening effect. Such a costume on a tall woman gives the appearance of only moderate height."

Low Heels and Low Coiffure. "It's really astonishing how much one can do in the way of diminishing one's size by such simple means as dress and pose. Heels, of course, play an important part in suggesting, or actually giving, additional inches, but it's easier to decrease the height by wearing low heels than to increase it very much by the aid of high ones. High heels—that is, extremely high ones—are so difficult to walk on that even for the stage small women would rather appear at their natural height than to risk walking ungracefully."

"You might think that five feet eight or ten would bar a woman from entering the ingenue role, but by such simple little devices as flat heels, ankle length dresses and hair done low in the neck and perfectly flat on top it is quite possible to make her seem almost petite. Slender women have an advantage over those of the same height who weigh more, but even these need not impress one with their unusual height if they follow the rules of the 'don'ts.'"



Growing Trellis Vines and Blossoms Indoors.

Of the many plants that are used to make an attractive house garden, few are better suited to the purpose than ferns and vines. These are so extremely decorative that they can be placed in different parts of the house at different times, combined with vases of cut flowers, and thus add greatly to the general scheme of decoration. A few good ferns and vines make the basis of good floral ornamentation for the winter season indoors.

While apparently very delicate, these plants, if cared for intelligently, will thrive with so small an amount of effort that it is well worth while to make it. Maidenhair fern, beautiful and fragrant, is apt to give the impression, because taken from dark crevices in the woods, that it will get along in dark places indoors. This is a mistake. The fern ought to have the morning sun to thrive. If the plant is intended for hall decoration, it should be moved into a sunny east room for a while before noon each day. Another necessity for this ever popular plant is a soft half sand. Cold air draughts should never strike it, as the sensitive fronds are apt to shrivel and die at the severe ordeal. It does not require much watering—none, really—until the earth has become quite dry.

All ferns, and, indeed, any potted plants, should be kept quite clean. Those who have been successful with the growing of ferns indoors say that they give them a weekly bath. This is done by placing the pot in a half tubful of warm water, in which is a dash of ammonia—not enough to make the process of washing unpleasant, however. The fronds should be carefully sponged and the outside of the pots cleaned. A plant will grow much better in a perfectly clean pot than a dirty one, as it is more porous and healthful to live in.

If the ferns have had to be kept near a register or in a very warm room, they may be treated to a bath of quite strong ammonia water. This is refreshing and beneficial. At no time during the winter should the plants be taken from their warm bath and placed out of doors, at an open window, in a cold draught, or otherwise exposed to the severity of the weather. They are much like human beings, and would suffer and often die from such treatment, were they subjected to it.

If possible, all plants should be set in the sun in a warm room after their bath, until they are dry.

The indoor cultivation of vines is one that attracts many lovers of graceful domestic culture. Ivy and clematis are both capable of being transplanted to indoor realms. These pretty trailers will get along in a temperature as low as fifty degrees; so little concern need be felt about keeping them warm enough in the house, even in mid-winter.

The ivy vine needs a rich soil and daily watering, the pots being well drained to admit of this treatment. The weekly watering in warm water in which, in the case of the ivy, a little common household soap is used is productive of a great luxuriance of foliage and a beautiful house plant. No scale bug—the enemy of this vine—can withstand the soapy water if it is applied thoroughly and regularly.

As a trellis vine that blossoms the clematis is one of the leading favorites, and deservedly so. This also requires a rich soil—one-third of manure added to the ordinary loam not being too heavy for it. When it begins to bloom a semi-weekly watering of manure water will also be required to keep it in good condition. At any time the plant should be watered daily, toward evening being the best time.

The Social Debut of Baby.

For the young mother who wishes to entertain, and who is also the proud and happy possessor of a new baby, the idea of giving an old fashioned candle party presents delightful possibilities. Furthermore, as it does, a novel form of entertainment, and one that can be made as charming and dainty as the hostess desires. The date of the origin of the candle party appears to be in the fifteenth century, and it is mentioned by both Shakespeare and Scott as an occasion of great festivity, when friends and neighbors were invited to congratulate the parents and drink the infant heir's health in the candle cup.

The invitations should be sent out when the baby is about eight weeks old and should be restricted to the most intimate friends of the family, and should consist of a tiny card, bearing the child's name, enclosed in an envelope with the mother's visiting card. On her card should be written: "Candle Party, Wednesday Afternoon, February 12, at Four o'clock."

Try to have baby ready for his first disquisition by giving him a long nap about noon, so that the wee mite may be smiling and good natured, for naturally he will prove the center of attraction, and as he is too young for much handling have the lace trimmed bassinet brought into the drawing room, or, if preferred, the nursemaid may carry him on a christening pillow. Of course, baby is attired in his very best robe, and the nurse should be immaculately gowned in a white uniform, with cap and apron.

Select some charming young matron to dispense the beverage and one or two others to assist you in entertaining. One person should also have charge of the distribution of the souvenir boxes. These should contain squares of the christening cake, and can be made very attractive by covering small pasteboard ones with white satin ribbon and pasting in the center of the cover a tiny vignette photograph of baby himself, with his monogram and the date drawn in gold paint and arranged across the corners.

For the young mother who is contemplating one of these delightful affairs the following recipes are given, and as they are extremely easy of construction, with a little care and forethought on her part they may be readily prepared at home:

Christening Cake.

The genuine old fashioned christening cake is made by beating to a cream a quarter of a pound of butter with two cupsful of granulated sugar, and adding the well beaten yolks of four eggs, a teaspoonful of vanilla and one cupful of milk; then sift two teaspoonfuls of baking powder with three cupfuls of pastry flour, and stir into the cake mixture. Add the well beaten whites at the last moment and mix thoroughly. When ready to bake take out one-third of the batter, and add to it a tablespoonful of cinnamon, an ounce of chocolate melted, two tablespoonfuls of chopped nuts and a tablespoonful of suet or lard. Grease three sheet pans of exactly the same size; put the fruit mixture into one, the rest into the other two pans. Bake in a moderate oven for half an hour. When the cakes are done turn out on paraffin paper, spread one light cake with boiled frosting, colored and flavored with strawberry extract; place the darker cake on top, spread it with frosting, and on top of this lay the remaining light cake. Ice the entire cake with strawberry frosting and decorate with candied cherries.

Small Fancy Iced Cakes.

Prepare a rich cake batter and when smooth and light turn into shallow baking pans that have been well greased with butter. Bake in a quick oven fifteen minutes. Turn out carefully and cut with small cutters into diamonds, hearts and squares. Correspondingly shaped pieces can be placed together with a filling of jelly. Put chopped nuts or whipped cream between, and then ice with vanilla or strawberry frosting.

Old English Candle Cake.

This should be prepared the day before it is to be used. Stir two large cupfuls of oatmeal into three quarts of boiling water, salting it to taste, adding a cupful of stoned raisins, two sliced lemons, a stick of cinnamon and one nutmeg grated. Boil one hour and strain carefully, then place in the ice box until ready to serve. At serving time heat slowly to the boiling point, adding a quart of hot milk, a pint of brandy, a half pint of Jamaica rum and a pint of melted butter. Pour into a punchbowl, whose contents may be kept hot by a tiny spirit lamp underneath. Serve in candle cups, with a spoonful of whipped cream and a little grated lemon peel.

DON'T SLUMP AWKWARDLY AND LOOK CONSCIOUS OF YOUR HEIGHT

A CHARMING CARRIAGE FOR A TALL WOMAN

DON'T STAND NEAR DOORWAYS